

NOV 03 2003



UNITED STATES  
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## Patent Technology Center 1600

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Exr. Cynthia Wilder  
Art Unit 1637  
Room 12E11

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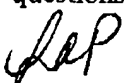
NOV 03 2003

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## Fax Transmittal

November 3, 2003

RECIPIENT NAME(S)	RECIPIENT FAX NUMBER(S)	RECIPIENT TELEPHONE NUMBER(S)	RECIPIENT ROOM #(S)
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Attn: Cynthia B. Wilder, Ph.D. Art Unit 1637	(703) 746-5051	(703) 305-1680	
SENDER	SENDER'S TELEPHONE NUMBER	SENDER'S ROOM NUMBER	
Lisa A. Penoyer	(202) 942-5325	977	
CLIENT/MATTER NUMBER	TIMEKEEPER NUMBER	NUMBER OF PAGE(S)	
Atty. Dkt. No.: 16517.250	7787	We are transmitting 12 page(s) (including this cover sheet)	
TRANSMISSION DEADLINE (DATE & TIME)		ALTERNATE TELEPHONE NUMBER (OPTIONAL)	
This document must be transmitted no later than: November 3, 2003 - ASAP		Alternate telephone number at which the sender can be reached if there are difficulties with this fax: (202) 942-6473	
If you experience difficulty receiving this fax transmission, please contact the operator at 202.942.5837.			
Applicants: Thomas G. RUFF <i>et al.</i> Appln. No.: 09/849,526 Filing Date: May 7, 2001 Title: Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules Associated with Plants	Transmitted herewith are courtesy copies of: (1) a Transmittal Letter; (2) a Request to Rescind Prior Request and Certification, a Petition for Revival of an Unintentionally Abandoned Patent Application, and Petition for Express Abandonment; (3) an Exhibit A--Request and Certification under 35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(i); and (4) a postcard receipt date-stamped by the OIPE on August 26, 2003.		
<p>Examiner Wilder,</p> <p>It is our understanding that the original documents, which were filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on August 26, 2003, and for which courtesy copies were faxed on October 30, 2003, have not been matched with the Patent Office file. Therefore, pursuant to our telephone conversation today, attached please find courtesy copies of these documents for the above-referenced case. Thank you for your kind assistance. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me.</p> <p>Lisa </p>			

### PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL

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555 Twelfth Street, NW  
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October 30, 2003

**RUSH**

RECIPIENT NAME(S)	RECIPIENT FAX NUMBER(S)	RECIPIENT TELEPHONE NUMBER(S)	RECIPIENT ROOM #(S)
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Attn: Cynthia B. Wilder, Ph.D. Art Unit 1637	(703) 872-9306	(703) 305-1680	
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Holly Logue Prutz	(202) 942-5243	985	
CLIENT/MATTER NUMBER	TIMEKEEPER NUMBER	NUMBER OF PAGE(S)	
Atty. Dkt. No.: 16517.250	4998	We are transmitting 11 page(s) (including this cover sheet)	
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This document must be transmitted no later than: October 30, 2003 - ASAP		Alternate telephone number at which the sender can be reached if there are difficulties with this fax: (202) 942-6473	
If you experience difficulty receiving this fax transmission, please contact the operator at 202.942.5837.			
Applicants: Thomas G. RUFF <i>et al.</i> Appln. No.: 09/849,526 Filing Date: May 7, 2001 Title: Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules Associated with Plants		Transmitted herewith are courtesy copies of: (1) a Transmittal Letter; (2) a Request to Rescind Prior Request and Certification, a Petition for Revival of an Unintentionally Abandoned Patent Application, and Petition for Express Abandonment; (3) an Exhibit A--Request and Certification under 35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(i); and (4) a postcard receipt date-stamped by the OIPE on August 26, 2003.	
Examiner Wilder,  It is our understanding that the original documents, which were filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on August 26, 2003, have not been matched with the Patent Office file. Therefore, pursuant to our telephone conversation today, attached please find courtesy copies of these documents for the above-referenced case.			

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Atty. Docket No.: 16517.250  
Date: August 26, 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):	Thomas G. RUFF <i>et al.</i>	Art Unit:	1631
Appln. No.:	09/849,526	Examiner:	To Be Assigned
Filing Date:	May 7, 2001		
Title:	Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules Associated with Plants		

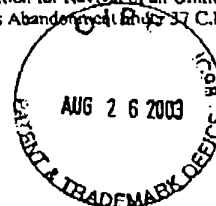
Mail Stop Petition

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please place the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office receipt stamp hereon to acknowledge receipt of the following:

1. a Transmittal Letter (in duplicate);
2. Request to Rescind Prior Request and Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.213(b); Petition for Revival of an Unintentionally Abandoned Patent Application Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.137(f); and Petition for Express Abandonment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.138(c) (in duplicate);
3. Exhibit A—copy of Request and Certification under 35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(i); and
4. a return postcard.



Return postcard to: Holly Legue Prutz (Room 1196)

COPY

ARNOLD & PORTER

Holly Logue Prutz  
Holly\_Prutz@aporter.com  
202.942.5243  
202.942.5999 Fax  
555 Twelfth Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20004-1206

August 26, 2003

**Mail Stop Petition**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/849,526  
Filed: May 7, 2001  
Title: Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules Associated  
with Plants  
Applicants: Thomas G. RUFF *et al.*  
Atty. Docket: 16517.250

Sir:

The following documents are forwarded herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO):

1. a Request to Rescind Prior Request and Certification Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.213(b); Petition for Revival of an Unintentionally Abandoned Patent Application Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.137(f); and Petition for Express Abandonment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.138(c) (in duplicate);
2. Exhibit A—copy of Request and Certification under 35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(i); and
3. a return postcard.

Please stamp the attached postcard with the filing date of these documents and return it to our courier.

Applicants request that the following fees be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2387 referencing docket number 16517.250:

\$ 1,300.00	petition to revive unintentionally abandoned application fee; and
\$ 130.00	petition for express abandonment fee.

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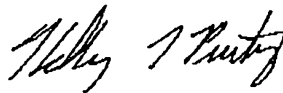
## ARNOLD & PORTER

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Commissioner for Patents  
Atty. Docket: 16517.250  
August 26, 2003  
Page 2

Applicants do not believe that any fees other than the \$1,430.00 are due in conjunction with this filing. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned. However, if any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 are required in the present application, then the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Arnold & Porter Deposit Account No. 50-2387, referencing matter number 16517.250. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,



David R. Marsh (Reg. Attorney No. 41,408)  
Holly L. Prutz (Reg. Attorney No. 47,755)

Attachments

COPY

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Thomas G. RUFF *et al.*

Appl. No.: 09/849,526

Filed: May 7, 2001

Title: **Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other  
Molecules Associated with Plants**

Confirmation No: 7991

Art Unit: 1631

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Atty. Docket: 38-21(51930)B

**Request to Rescind Prior Request and Certification  
Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.213(b);  
Petition for Revival of an Unintentionally Abandoned  
Patent Application Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.137(f); and  
Petition for Express Abandonment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.138(c)**

**Mail Stop Petition**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1405

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants hereby petition in the above-captioned U.S. Application to:

(1) rescind the Request for Non-Publication and Certification filed on May 7, 2001, in the above-captioned U.S. Application in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.213(b);

(2) revive the above-captioned U.S. Application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.137(f), for purposes of establishing co-pendency with child applications Serial No. (not yet assigned), filed April 28, 2003, naming Thomas J. La Rosa, Yihua Zhou, David K. Kovalic, Yongwei Cao, Jingdong Liu as inventors and having Attorney Docket No. 38-21(53222)B (the "First Child Application") and Serial No. (not yet assigned), filed July 2, 2003, naming Thomas J. La Rosa, Yihua Zhou, David K. Kovalic, Yongwei Cao, Jingdong Liu as inventors and having Attorney Docket No. 38-21(53373)A (the "Second Child Application"); and

(3) expressly abandon the above-captioned U.S. Application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.138(c) as of the later of the respective filing dates granted to the First Child Application and the Second Child Application, for purposes of avoiding publication of the above-

Thomas G. RUFF *et al.*  
Appl. No. 09/849,526  
Page 2

captioned U.S. application. Authorization to charge the official fees for this Petition is given in the accompanying transmittal letter. A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed.

The grant of the present Petition by the Office will result in:

- (1) a rescission of the Request for Non-Publication and Certification filed on May 7, 2001, in Application Serial No. 09/849,526;
- (2) revival of Application Serial No. 09/849,526, which was unintentionally abandoned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.137(f);
- (3) copendency of Application Serial No. 09/849,526 with child application Serial No. (not yet assigned) filed April 28, 2003, naming Thomas J. La Rosa, Yihua Zhou, David K. Kovalic, Yongwei Cao, Jingdong Liu as inventors and having Attorney Docket No. 38-21(53222)B (the First Child Application);
- (4) copendency of Application Serial No. 09/849,526 with child application Serial No. (not yet assigned), filed July 2, 2003, naming Thomas J. La Rosa, Yihua Zhou, David K. Kovalic, Yongwei Cao, Jingdong Liu as inventors and having Attorney Docket No. 38-21(53373)A (the Second Child Application); and
- (5) express abandonment of Application Serial No. 09/849,526 as of the later of the respective filing dates granted to the First Child Application and the Second Child Application in order to avoid publication of the above-captioned application.

***The Incorrect Certification Under 35 U.S.C. § 122(b)(2)(B)(i)***

On May 7, 2001, the above-captioned U.S. application was filed with a Request for Non-Publication, which contained a certification under 35 U.S.C. § 122(b)(2)(B)(i), including a statement that the invention "has not and will not be the subject of an application filed in another country, or under a multilateral agreement, that requires publication at eighteen months after filing." (Request attached hereto as Exhibit A). Thereafter it was discovered that one or more foreign applications, which may be related to the invention disclosed in the above-captioned U.S. application, were previously filed in another country or under a



Thomas G. RUFF *et al.*  
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Page 3

multilateral agreement that requires publication at eighteen months after filing. One such application was filed on April 13, 2001 (the "Previous Foreign Application").<sup>1</sup>

Therefore, Applicants believe that when the above-captioned U.S. Application was filed the certification under 35 U.S.C. § 122(b)(2)(B)(i) may have been incorrect, and wish to rescind the request for non-publication filed in the above-captioned U.S. application. Applicants believe the certification in the above-captioned U.S. Application may have been incorrect because the Previous Foreign Application is directed to one or more nucleic acid or amino acid sequences, or both, that exhibit at least 85% sequence identity over 80% of their length to one or more nucleic acid or amino acid sequences, or both, disclosed in the above-captioned U.S. Application.<sup>2</sup>

In light of the above, Applicants hereby explicitly notify the Office of the filing of the Previous Foreign Application on April 13, 2001, and rescind the request for non-publication submitted in U.S. Application Serial No. 09/849,526 pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.213(b). Applicants assert that any incorrect certification made under 35 U.S.C. § 122(b)(2)(B)(i) was inadvertent.

*The Unintentional Abandonment Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 122 (b)(2)(B)(iii)*

It was also discovered that one or more foreign applications, which may be related to the invention disclosed in the above-captioned U.S. application, were subsequently filed in another country or under a multilateral agreement that requires publication at eighteen months after filing. One such application was filed on December 4, 2002 (the "Subsequent Foreign Application").<sup>3</sup>

Applicants inadvertently did not notify the Director of the filing of the Subsequent Foreign Application within 45 days of its filing. Therefore, Applicants believe that the

<sup>1</sup> Where more than one application was filed in another country or under a multilateral agreement, only the date for the earliest-filed foreign application is recited herein.

<sup>2</sup> Applicants do not assert that nucleic acid sequences or amino acid sequences that exhibit at least 85% identity over 80% of their length either are or are not an "invention disclosed in the application" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 122.

<sup>3</sup> Where more than one application was filed in another country or under a multilateral agreement, only the date for the earliest-filed foreign application is recited herein.

Thomas G. RUFF *et al.*  
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Page 4

above-captioned U.S. application may be abandoned pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 122 (b)(2)(B)(iii), because the Subsequent Foreign Application is directed to one or more nucleic acid or amino acid sequences, or both, that exhibit at least 85% sequence identity over 80% of their length to one or more nucleic acid or amino acid sequences, or both, disclosed in the above-captioned U.S. application.<sup>4</sup>

In light of the above, Applicants hereby explicitly notify the Office of the filing of the Subsequent Foreign Application on December 4, 2002, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 122 (b)(2)(B)(iii). Applicants assert that any delay of providing such notice to the Office was inadvertent.

Applicants hereby petition for revival of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/849,526 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.137(f), for purposes of establishing co-pendency with the above-referenced child applications. Applicants hereby assert that any and all delay in filing the required reply, *i.e.*, notification to the Office of the Subsequent Foreign Application, from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.137(b), was unintentional and respectfully request that the above-captioned U.S. application be revived.

***The Express Abandonment of the Above-Captioned U.S. Application***

Applicants also hereby petition for express abandonment of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/849,526 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.138(c) as of the later of the respective filing dates granted to the First Child Application and the Second Child Application, for purposes of avoiding publication of the above-captioned U.S. application.

The above-captioned U.S. application contains multiple sequences, only some of which meet the criteria such that those sequences may be considered to be the "invention disclosed" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 122. However, in lieu of submitting a redacted copy of the above-captioned U.S. application, provided for under 35 U.S.C. § 122 (b)(2)(B)(v), Applicants have elected to pursue the present course of action of refiling two applications, one containing those sequences which may be disclosed in the above-referenced

<sup>4</sup> Applicants herein reiterate the statement made in footnote 2, *supra*.

Thomas G. RUFF *et al.*  
Appl. No. 09/849,526  
Page 5

foreign applications without a request for non-publication, and one application containing sequences which were not disclosed in the above-referenced foreign applications with a request for non-publication.

### Conclusion

In accordance with the facts set out herein, Applicants hereby petition to:

(1) rescind of the Request for Non-Publication and Certification filed on May 7, 2001, in Application Serial No. 09/849,526;

(2) revive U.S. Application Serial No. 09/849,526 as unintentionally abandoned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.137(f); and

(3) expressly abandon the U.S. Application Serial No. 09/849,526 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.138(c), to avoid publication, as of the later of the respective filing dates granted to the First Child Application and the Second Child Application.

Thomas G. RUFF *et al.*  
Appl. No. 09/849,526  
Page 6

Should the Commissioner require additional information, he is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided below. The undersigned is an attorney of record, or an attorney acting in a representative capacity for Applicants by virtue of being named in the transmittal papers accompanying the above-referenced child applications, and therefore has authority to petition for abandonment of the above-captioned U.S. application in favor of the above-referenced child applications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.138(b), 1.33(b), and 1.34(a).

Respectfully submitted,

*Lawrence M. Lavin, Jr.*

Lawrence M. Lavin, Jr. (Reg. No. 30,768)  
by David R. Marsh (Reg. No. 41,408)  
Holly Logue Prutz (Reg. No. 47,755)  
*by Holly Logue Prutz*

Date: August 26, 2003

MONSANTO COMPANY  
800 N. Lindbergh Blvd.  
Mailzone N2NB  
St. Louis, MO 63167  
(314) 694-3602 telephone  
(314) 694-1671 facsimile

## EXHIBIT A

COPY

PTO/SB/35 (11-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

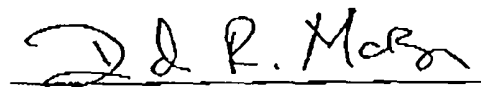
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**REQUEST AND CERTIFICATION  
UNDER  
35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(i)**

First Named Inventor	RUFF, Thomas G.
Title	Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules Associated with Plants
Atty Docket Number	16517.250 [38-21(51930)B]

I hereby certify that the invention disclosed in the attached application has not and will not be the subject of an application filed in another country, or under a multilateral agreement, that requires publication at eighteen months after filing. I hereby request that the attached application not be published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b).

May 7, 01  
Date

  
Signature

David R. Marsh (Reg. No. 41,408)

Typed or printed name

This request must be signed in compliance with 37 CFR 1.33(b) and submitted with the application upon filing.

Applicant may rescind this nonpublication request at any time. If applicant rescinds a request that an application not be published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b), the application will be scheduled for publication at eighteen months from the earliest claimed filing date for which a benefit is claimed.

If applicant subsequently files an application directed to the invention disclosed in the attached application in another country, or under a multilateral international agreement, that requires publication of applications eighteen months after filing, the applicant must notify the United States Patent and Trademark Office of such filing within forty-five (45) days after the date of the filing of such foreign or international application. Failure to do so will result in abandonment of this application (35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(iii)).

**Burden Hour Statement:** This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.213(a). The information is used by the public to request that an application not be published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b) (and the PTO to process that request). Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This form is estimated to take 6 minutes to complete. This time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.